

Adults and Communities Directorate

6th December 2010

Please see distribution list below

Dear colleague

A Vision for Adult Social Care in Birmingham

On Tuesday November 30th, 2010, Stephen Hughes launched initial proposals for consultation on the Council Council's Business Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15 in the light of the expected impact of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2010. As a Council as a whole we anticipate that government grant income will reduce by 28% in real terms over four years with much of this reduction in the next year. In Birmingham, we anticipate that we will need savings of over £300m over the next four years.

On Thursday December 2nd, 2010 I followed this by launching a consultation on what I have called a Vision for Adult Social Care in Birmingham and I write to you now to ask that you join me in shaping that Vision.

For my Directorate, I face having to deliver services within reductions of £40m in 2011/12 rising to £107m in 2014/15. I am also conscious that the health sector is also seeking reductions of £105m in 2011/12 and although we are promised additional funding next year, I am now of the view that to use that money to patch a broken system would be wasteful in the extreme.

I have therefore proposed within the consultation that we seek to use the new money to create a new service 'offer' for people who need adult social care services that is done in partnership with health services.

Please reply to:

Adults and Communities

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The new 'offer' is based on the Council's commitment to achieve two outcomes for adult social care:

- **Quality of Life:** We exist to ensure the quality of life of all citizens – today, tomorrow and always.
- **Health:** We exist to assure the health of our citizens through a single approach to health and care and to meet the strategic ambitions of a world class city.

I propose that the new service offer is based on the vision that the vast majority of people can use their own resources and skills to contribute to meeting their adult social care needs.

The proposed offer is to provide:

- Information, advice and signposting available to everyone, fostering strong and supportive communities that value the contribution that each of their citizens can make;
- Preventative and enablement services – to keep people as independent as possible for as long as possible;
- Individual budgets for people with low incomes/savings whose personal care needs are critical*, based on a Universal Resource Allocation System; and
- Closer working with Health to keep people out of care and help them stay independent in their own home.

I hope that you will find the documents <http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/socialcarevision> informative and challenging and that you will join me to give me your views throughout the consultation period, which concludes on March 2nd, 2011.

Yours sincerely



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Adults and Communities Directorate

Mr Mark Newbold, CX Heart of England NHS Trust
Mr John Adler, CX City Hospital
Ms Julie Moore, CX UHB NHS Trust
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